

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 CU-05 NIC-01 ACDA-19

OPR-02 SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 /142 W

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R 231705Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4411

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4873

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS GR

SUBJ: BRITISH EMBASSY BELIEVES GOG BEHIND JULY 22

DEMONSTRATION

REF ATHENS 4809

1. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICERS TOLD US THEY ARE PERSUADED GREEK GOVERNMENT PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT DEMONSTRATION AT BRITISH EMBASSY JULY 22 WHICH CAUSED APPROXIMATELY \$100,000 DAMAGE. BRITISH EMBASSY LEARNED ON JULY 21 THAT GREEK MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS AT HIGHEST LEVELS BELIEVED BRITISH HELICOPTERS HAD AIDED TURKISH LANDING IN CYPRUS AND AIRCRAFT CARRIER "HERMES" HAS PROVIDED ESCORT PROTECTION FOR TURKISH SUPPORT VESSELS. DAO INFORMED GREEK GENERAL STAFF ENRAGED OVER REPORT OF TWO BRITISH HELICOPTERS SHOT DOWN IN CYPRUS CARRYING ARMAMENTS REPORTEDLY DESTINED FOR TURKISH FORCES. BRITISH AMBASSADOR CALLED ON GREEK KYPREOS FOUR TIMES
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JULY 22 TO DENY ALLEGATION OF BRITISH ASSISTANCE TO

TURKISH MILITARY OPERATIONS.

2. AS REPORTED ATHENS 4809, DEMONSTRATION CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO EMBASSY BUILDING AND CARS IN PARKING LOT. BRITISH EMBASSY ESTIMATES \$75,000 REQUIRED TO REPAIR CHANCERY AND \$25,000 FOR AUTOMOBILES. GOG HAS CONSENTED TO COVER REPAIR EXPENDITURES. BRITISH AMBASSADOR PROTESTED DEMONSTRATION TO FM KYPREOS JULY 23 AND FCO CALLED IN GREEK CHARGE. BRITISH EMBASSY ALSO HAS ASKED BBC TO TONE DOWN ANTI-GREEK NEWS COVERAGE AND COMMENTARY. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER POINTED OUT ANTI-GREEK ORIENTATION OF BBC REPORTAGE COMMENCED ON APRIL 21, 1967 AND HAS CONTINUED TO IRRITATE GREEK REGIME PARTICULARLY SO IN LAST DAYS WHEN REPORTING APPEARED TO JUSTIFY TURKISH INTERVENTION IN CYPRUS. ATHENS POLICE DIRECTOR TOLD BRITISH EMBASSY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THAT POLICE COULD NOT GUARANTEE AGAINST REPETITION IN FUTURE OF SUCH DEMONSTRATION AGAINST BRITAIN. TASCA

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Message Attributes

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